FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
DDP
G.I. JOE
A REAL AMERICAN HERO!™
ALSO FEATURING
DEFEX

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STORY

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G.I.JOE is the code name for America's daring, highly trained Special Mission force. It's purpose: To defend freedom from COBRA, a ruthless organization determined to rule the world.

COBRA is on the brink of their greatest victory, and a decimated G.I. JOE team seems powerless to stop them. When the terrorist group discovered the secret location of the Joes' base – and attacked it – the team's new leader, GENERAL REY, made an unthinkable decision. In order to prevent Cobra from gaining any of the base's secrets, Rey himself ordered the Pit's destruction.

Meanwhile, even as COBRA COMMANDER revels in his utter defeat of DESTRO, he puts into motion plans to use the TEMPEST: a doomsday weapon of horrific power. With it, nobody will be able to stop him...

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY

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Ariel Davis. Jack Morgan. Mia Sanchez. Haley Rin. Tristan Warfield.

Days ago, they were typical college students. Their biggest concerns were mid-term exams and weekend parties.

Now, they're being hunted. Now, they may no longer be human.

Brought together as part of a class project, their assignment was to research the manipulation of human DNA. Led by Haley, the students stumbled upon what they believed to be an incredible breakthrough – but their conclusions were scoffed at. In frustration, they decided to use themselves as guinea pigs, unlocking in each of them a special ability: Ariel, a sixth sense; Jack, an ability to affect the emotions of others; Mia, enhanced physical traits; Haley, animal-like transformations. Tristan mutated into a feral beast, and fled into the wilderness.

Unsure of who to turn to, the kids determined to track down and help their friend. But when Tristan was captured by a group of armed men before they could reach him, it became clear that the changes they've undergone involve far more than themselves...

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THE U.S.S. FLAGG, HEADING NORTHEAST IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.
CONGRATULATIONS, GENERAL REY. YOU'VE MANAGED TO TAKE A COMPLETELY UNMANAGEABLE SITUATION AND MAKE IT EVEN WORSE!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY BILLIONS OF DOLLARS YOUR "SCORCHED EARTH" APPROACH COST THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TAXPAYERS?
I'LL CHOOSE THE LIVES OF MY MEN OVER A MILITARY BASE ANY DAY, GIBBS.
COBRA FORCES WERE INSIDE THE PIT. IF THEY HAD SUCCEEDED IN PURGING THE COMPUTER SYSTEMS OR GAINING ACCESS TO THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY'S SHARED DATABASE--
--YOU'D BE FACED WITH CATASTROPHIC RESULTS RIGHT NOW.
THE PRESIDENT SHARES YOUR ASSESSMENT, GENERAL REY.
I'D SUGGEST YOU CALM DOWN AND LET THESE SOLDIERS DO THEIR JOB, GENERAL GIBBS.
CONSIDER YOURSELF AN IMPARTIAL OBSERVER FROM HERE ON OUT.
BARREL ROLL, IS YOUR TEAM READY?
PREPPED AND READY TO FLY, SIR.
I EXPECTED AS MUCH.
WE'VE REACHED THE POINT OF NO RETURN NOW, SOLDIER. IF YOUR OPINION ON THE MATTER HAS CHANGED AT ALL, YOU SAY THE WORD AND WE PULL YOU FROM THE MISSION. NO QUESTIONS ASKED.
UNDERSTOOD, SIR...
...BUT AGAIN, I SAY WE'RE PREPPED AND READY TO FLY.

TELL THE PRESIDENT, MS. SECRETARY--
--G.I. JOE WON'T LET HIM DOWN.
GOOD LUCK AND GODSPEED, GENERAL.
PING! PING!
FLINT, WE'RE NEEDED IN OPS.
AT EASE, MEN. WE'LL SEE YOU JUST BEFORE TAKE-OFF.
IF YOU'D LIKE TO PHONE YOUR FAMILIES, I'VE ARRANGED A SECURE LINE IN THE ADMIRAL'S OFFICE.
NUKING COBRA ISLAND WILL ONLY BE THE FIRST PART OF OUR MISSION.
COBRA'S HIDING SOMETHING IN BADHKISTAN. WE'VE SEEN A FLURRY OF ACTIVITY IN THE LAST TEN HOURS, ALL OF IT CONCENTRATED AROUND A SPECIFIC MOUNTAI REGION 20 MILES EAST OF THE CAPITOL CITY OF DJESKA.
THEY'VE DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO KEEP OUR EYES OFF THIS AREA SINCE THEY BEGAN OCCUPYING THE COUNTRY A FEW MONTHS AGO. MAYBE THE CURTMIN'S ABOUT TO COME UP.
WE HAVE SAT FOOTAGE THAT SHOWS A COBRA SEA UNIT BRINGING IN SOME KIND OF LARGE CANNON-TYPE WEAPON JUST A FEW HOURS AGO.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS YET BUT I HAVE A BAD FEELING THAT WON'T BE A MYSTERY FOR LONG.
NICE WORK, LADY JAYE. I KNOW YOU TOOK SOME LUMPS DURING COBRA COMMANDER'S PRISON BREAK, SO I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS HERE.
THE TROOPS ARE IN MESS RIGHT NOW, AND I SUGGEST WE JOIN THEM... ENJOY THEIR COMPANY FOR A WHILE. WE DON'T WANT THEM THINKING OF IT AS THE "LAST SUPPER."

AIN-REJ MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, JUST OUTSIDE DJESKA, BADMIKSTAN.
TOWER, THIS IS WILD WEASEL! COMMAND CODE FIVE-ONE-ONE-NINER REQUESTING GROUND SECURITY ESCORT AND FULL COVERAGE.
COPY THAT, WILD WEASEL. YOU ARE CLEAR AND COVERED.
PSSHSKREEEEEEEE!
CRIMSON GUARDSMEN--
--AT ATTENTION!
THE COMMANDER HAS ARRIVED.
IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU AGAIN, COMMANDER...
...AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW YOU WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO.

WELL, IT'S CERTAINLY BIG ENOUGH, ISN'T IT?
THE FIRST OF MANY COMPLETELY FORTIFIED COBRA STRONGHOLDS...
...LOOMING OVER THE FIRST OF MANY COBRA-OCCUPIED NATIONS.
WELCOME TO MONOLITH BASE.
EVERY BREATH I TAKE SEEMS SWEETER TODAY INCENSED WITH A FAINT TRACE OF VICTORY.
THAT SCENT GROWS STRONGER WITH EVERY PASSING MOMENT; STRONGER... AND CLOSER.
NOT MUCH LONGER NOW, MY FRIENDS...

"THE TEMPEST IS READY TO BE LAUNCHED INTO THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE..."
"...WE SIMPLY NEED THE ARMAMENT."
AND HERE IT IS.
THE DEATHANGEL VIRUS--CREATED TO BE THE CROWN JEWEL IN IRAN'S CHEMICAL WEAPONS PROGRAM.
SIXTY SECONDS AFTER CONTACT THE FLESH BEGINS TO BURN. AT FIVE MINUTES, MUSCULATURE HAS BEEN EATEN AWAY AND BONE IS REVEALED.
WITHIN TEN MINUTES, THERE IS SIMPLY NOTHING LEFT.
WE ARE HOURS AWAY FROM ULTIMATE VICTORY.
WE NOW POSSESS THE WEAPON, THE AMMUNITION AND THE SECURE POSITION.
THERE IS NO HESITATION; THERE IS NO SUBTERFUGE. THERE IS ONLY THE ASCENT TO ABSOLUTE POWER THAT WE HAVE PURSUED FROM THE BEGINNING.
"WE WILL STRIKE SWIFTLY AND DECISIVELY. OUR ENEMIES ARE COMPLETELY WEAKENED AND DISTRACTED AND WE WILL PRESS THAT ADVANTAGE.
"COBRA'S DOMINANCE WILL RECOGNIZE NO BORDER...
"...AND ACCEPT NO RESISTANCE."

OVER THE ATLANTIC, HEADING WEST...
GENERAL GIBBS? WE'VE JUST RECEIVED WORD FROM THE U.S.S. FLAGG; THEIR STRIKE HAS BEEN LAUNCHED.
I'LL LET MY ASSOCIATES KNOW IMMEDIATELY.
Match has been lit.
TEK TEK TAKKA TEK
BLEEP!
THE GENERAL'S INFORMATION HAS BEEN ACCURATE THUS FAR-- BUT ARE YOU CERTAIN?
DECODED AND CONFIRMED, SIR.
EXCELLENT-- THANKS TO GIBBS, THE JOES ARE PLAYING RIGHT INTO OUR HANDS.
HAVE THE PRISIONERS BROUGHT IN AND OPEN A TWO-WAY FEED TO COBRA ISLAND.
AT WHAT POINT DOES REVOLUTION BECOME GENOCIDE, ZARTAN?
I WISH I HAD KNOWN THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION BEFORE TODAY. WE FOUNDED THE CREADONOKS IN PURSUIT OF ANARCHY AND INDEPENDENCE...
NOT MASS MURDER.

OPEN CHANNEL TRANSMITTING NOW, COMMANDER.
FROM THE MOMENT WE LIT THE FIRES OF THIS REVOLUTION, WE'VE KNOWN THAT EACH DAY COULD BE OUR LAST.
FOR SOME OF YOU, THAT FINAL HOUR HAS COME.
I AM SPEAKING NOW TO THE COIL AGENTS ASSEMBLED IN THEIR ENTIRETY ON COBRA ISLAND.
AS YOU'RE NO DOUBT ALL AWARE, THE ISLAND HAS BEEN EVACUATED! EVERY VEHICLE, EVERY PIECE OF TECHNOLOGY, AND EVERY LOYAL COBRA SOLDIER HAS BEEN-- OR WILL BE-- RELOCATED TO THE MONOLITH BASE HERE IN BADHIKSTAN.
WHEN JAMES DESTRO ASSUMED TEMPORARY CONTROL OF MY ORGANIZATION, HE PROMISED A NEW DAY WAS BEGINNING, AND HE WAS CORRECT...
...BUT THAT NEW DAY HASN'T BEEN THE DAWN UNTIL THIS MOMENT.
COIL SOLDIERS, YOU ARE ALL UNITED BY ONE COMMON TRAIT:
COWARDICE!
"NOW COBRA STANDS POISED TO CONQUER...
"...BUT TRAITORS AND COWARDS WILL NOT SHARE IN THE SPOILS.
YOU BETRAYED COBRA AND SWORE ALLEGIANCE TO ANOTHER... BUT AFTER I DEFEATED AND HUMILIATED YOUR CHOSEN LEADER...
...YOU SURRENDERED AND AGREED TO REJOIN COBRA'S RANKS!
"LOOK TO THE SKIES ABOVE COBRA ISLAND. LOOK UPON THE FIRE OF MY RAGE AS IT CONSUMES YOU!"

THIS IS THE END! THIS IS THE BEGINNING!
"THE END OF BETRAYAL AND TREACHERY!
"THE END OF FAILURE AND DEFEAT!
THE BEGINNING OF ABSOLUTE DOMINANCE AND THE BEGINNING OF A NEW AGE OF HELL ON EARTH FOR ANY MAN--
--ANY NATION--
"--AND ANY ARMY THAT DARES TO QUESTION MY RULE!
"ALL HAIL COBRA!"

FSSSSHHEEEEE!
BRUMMMMMOOOSSSH!
AAAAAHHHHHHH!
AAHHHH!
JH, GOD HE'S INSANE!

FLAGG CONTRO., THIS IS BARREL ROLL...
ORDNANCE IS AWAY.
AND MAY GOD FORGIVE US.

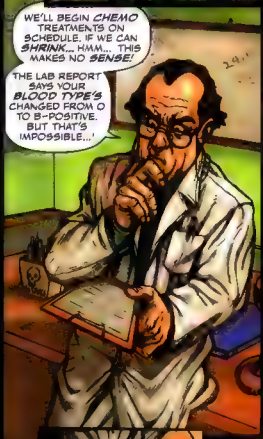
I'M BRINGING ALL THREE TEAMS ONLINE NOW.
GENERAL RE'SHIT MERCER AND RUN.
ONLINE
GRAND SLAM, LADY JAYE BLOCKMAVE
ONLINE
SHIPWRECK, JEEVE GUNG-HO STALKER
ONLINE
I REALIZE THIS ISN'T EXACTLY THE BEST TIME, BUT WE HAVE A MISSION TO RUN HERE. COULD SOMEONE GIVE ME A CONFIRMATION, PLEASE?
WE'RE HERE, FIREWALL... I THINK WE ALL JUST NEED A MINUTE.
FIREWALL'S RIGHT. TROOPS, WE JUST FINISHED THE EASY PART OF THIS MISSION--
--IT'S TIME TO FINISH THE JOB.
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF G.I. JOE
AVAILABLE NOW!

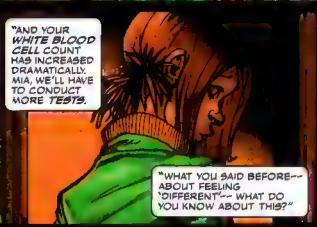
CHAPTER ONE
TODAY
"...DISSEMINATING INFORMATION NOW.
"HOMELAND SECURITY SHOULD PICK IT UP AS RANDOM CHATTER WITHIN THE HOUR.
"THAT SHOULD SEND THEM ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE, AND OFF OUR ASSES."
"EXCELLENT. VERY GOOD JOB MR. HANNIGAN."
WE'LL NOW HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME TO EXAMINE MR. WARFIELD.
HE AND HIS FRIENDS HOLD THE *KEY* TO EVERYTHING *THE BLACK RING* HAS BEEN PURSUING FOR *TWENTY YEARS.*
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I, THAT PUTTING TOGETHER THESE SPECIFIC CHILDREN WOULD PROVE BENEFICIAL TO US?

EXACTLY, MICHAELS, "CHILDREN." WHY THESE KIDS? WHY ON EARTH ARE WE LETTING YOUR COLLEGE STUDENTS RUN AMOK?
MR. RIN WAS THE KEY AND THE CATALYST...
...BUT IT TOOK THE OTHERS, ALL CAREFULLY HAND-PICKED, TO ASSURE SUCCESS.
SO WHY DIDN'T WE CAPTURE THIS...
-SIGH- RIN, HALEY RIN. I SUGGEST YOU TRY TO REMEMBER IT.
HE'S THE KIND OF GENIUS YOU FIND PERHAPS ONCE EVERY THIRD GENERATION.
BUT HIS WAS A MIND WITH NO GUIDANCE OR DIRECTION.
ON HIS OWN, HE'D ALREADY THEORIZED BREAKTHROUGHS IT TOOK US DECADES AND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO DISCOVER.
"HE NEEDED TO BE PUSHED. THAT'S WHERE THE OTHERS CAME IN.
"THE STUDENTS NOT ONLY HELPED COMPLETE MR. RIN'S RESEARCH...
"...BUT BECAME ITS GUINEA PIGS."
BUT TESTING MUST CONTINUE. THEIR ABILITIES MUST BE CONTROLLABLE BEFORE WE CAN TAKE THE NEXT STEP
THUS, WE NEED TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO HELP THEM.
"IN THE MEANTIME, WE WILL "REVERSE ENGINEER" MR. WARFIELD AND LEARN WHAT MAKES HIM TICK."
MIA, HOLD YOUR BREATH, PLEASE...
TA-WHEEB
OKAY, YOU CAN BREATHE NOW. WE'RE DONE.

I KNOW YOU WANT TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE, BUT THE TUMOR'S GROWN EVERY WEEK SINCE WE DISCOVERED IT.
CANCER JUST DOESN'T GO AWAY.

I KNOW. MY MOTHER AND FATHER BOTH DIED FROM IT.
BUT I THOUGHT... I HOPED... MAYBE SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ME. CHANGED ME. I, UHH, FEEL DIFFERENT.

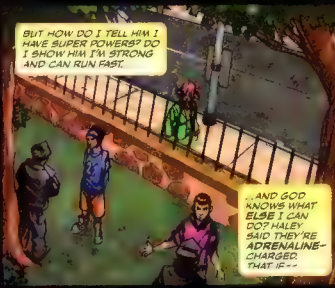

WE'LL BEGIN CHEMO TREATMENTS ON SCHEDULE. IF WE CAN SHRINK... HMM... THIS MAKES NO SENSE!
THE LAB REPORT SAYS YOUR BLOOD TYPE'S CHANGED FROM O TO B-POSITIVE. BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...!


"AND YOUR WHITE BLOOD CELL COUNT HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY. MIA, WE'LL HAVE TO CONDUCT MORE TESTS.
"WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE-- ABOUT FEELING 'DIFFERENT'-- WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?"

"NOTHING...

"...NOTHING AT ALL."

WE SWORE WE WOULDN'T TELL ANYONE, BUT I HAVE TO TELL MY DOCTOR.
YEAH. MY BODY CHANGED. EVERYTHING ABOUT ME CHANGED.


BUT HOW DO I TELL HIM I HAVE SUPER POWERS? DO I SHOW HIM I'M STRONG AND CAN RUN FAST.
.. AND GOD KNOWS WHAT ELSE I CAN DO? HALEY SAID THEY'RE ADRENALINE-CHARGED. THAT IF--

POLICE. ASKING ABOUT OUR FIGHT WITH THE SOLDIERS... IF ANYONE SAW ANYTHING.

OH, GOD. EVERYTHING'S HAPPENING SO FAST.
I... I DIDN'T SIGN ON FOR THIS!

OKAY. CALM DOWN. DON'T LET THEM SEE YOU LIKE THIS
HAPPY FACE. TIME. NO TEARS. BIG SMILE.
YOU CAN DO IT, MIA

HI!
MIA! HI. I WAS JUST SAYING I'M MISSING THESE WEIRD, TRISTAN FEELINGS.
I KNOW. HE'S OUT THERE, SOMEWHERE. BUT I CAN'T LOCK ONTO HIM.

YOU GUYS, UM, SEE ALL THE COPS?
AND THEY'RE HERE FOR US WE SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE!!
FALLEN THIS IS SCARY ENOUGH WITHOUT YOU MAKING IT WORSE
I WAS THINKING, MAYBE WE SHOULD TELL SOMEBODY
WE'RE IN THIS WAY OVER OUR HEADS. MAYBE YOUR PARENTS...
NO. IF WORD GETS OUT, WHAT WE CAN DO WE'D BE GRABBED, EXAMINED, EVEN PROBED, AND NOT IN THE FUN WAY.
THEY COULDN'T DO THAT, COULD THEY?
YOU HEAR WHAT HOMELAND SECURITY'S DOING AT GITMO?
BUT MIA'S RIGHT... MAYBE ONE OF OUR TEACHERS KNOWS WHAT
UHHH, GUYS.
JACK-- IT'S YOUR PHEROMONE POWERS. IT'S GOT TO BE!
SHUT THEM OFF!
W-WE'RE BEING STARED AT
JACK, THEY'RE ALL GIRLS.
IF IT'S ME, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TURN THEM ON AND OFF. IT'S JUST HAPPENING!
SORRY, GIRLS. THERE'S NOTHING HERE TO SEE. GO HOME
C'MON, LOVER
IF YOU EVER USE THEM ON-- I FEEL... JACK!!!
"BEGIN PROCEDURE..."

...LET'S SEE EXACTLY HOW HIS DNA HAS BEEN ALTERED
YOU THINK WE CAN CONTROL THE CHANGES?
WE HAVE TO REMEMBER OUR ORIGINAL SUBJECTS.?
H-HE'S MOVING... WAS IT SAFE TO REMOVE THE RESTRAINTS ?
UNHHHHHH!
WHERE-- WHERE AM I--?
OH, MY GOD-- MY REFLECTION!! I-- I'M NOT HUMAN!
I DON'T LIKE THIS, ARIEL.
I CAN'T ALWAYS CONTROL MY POWER. WHAT IF I DO THIS WRONG?
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THIS, EITHER. IT FEELS--
YEAH, YEAH LIKE YOU'RE BEING VIOLATED, GET OVER IT, ARIEL.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S PUSHING US TO FIND TRISTAN.
AND YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WITH THE ABILITY TO DO THAT.

I ACCIDENTALLY AFFECTED YOU BEFORE, SO IN THEORY, THIS SHOULD BE POSSIBLE.
THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY, RIGHT? I DON'T WANT TO REALLY FALL IN LOVE.
THAT MAKES TWO OF US
BUT YOU SAID YOU'RE PICKING UP UNFOCUSED TRACES OF TRISTAN.
LOVE'S A STRONG EMOTION. BY MAKING YOU WANT TO DO THIS FOR ME, MAYBE WE CAN EXTEND YOUR SIXTH SENSE.
SHUT UP, MORGAN. JUST DO IT.
FOCUS ON ME... THROUGH ME...
THIS IS DUMB! I FEEL LIKE AN ASS. YOU FEELING ANYTHING?
NOTHING YET--
UNHHHH..
OH, GOD.. YOU'RE GORGEOUS.
I.. I LOVE YOU.
MAKE LOVE TO ME, JACK. PLEASE..
PLEASE, JACK, I WANT YOU SO BAD.
AFTER YOU FIND TRISTAN YOU CAN HAVE ME. FOR ME, ARIEL. USE YOUR POWERS... BLOCK EVERYTHING ELSE OUT
FIND TRISTAN.
MAN, THIS IS SO COOL. WHY DIDN'T I GET THAT POWER?
THIS IS WRONG. IT'S SO WRONG.

ELSEWHERE..
PLEASE.. SOMEONE, PLEASE...
...TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!
HE'S VERBAL AND COGNIZANT, ALTHOUGH UNDERSTANDABLY CONFUSED
WE SUCCESSFULLY REMOVED THE BLOCKAGE IN HIS BRAIN. UNLIKE OUR PREVIOUS EXPERIMENTS HE HAS CONTROL
NOT TOTAL CONTROL. THE BOY'S TEMPERAMENT IS USUALLY BENIGN. HIS BESTIAL SIDE IS CLEARLY EVIDENT
WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME? WHY DID YOU TURN ME INTO A MONSTER?
I CAN SEE THAT FOR MYSELF, GENERAL. BUT THIS IS STILL A BREAK-THROUGH.
"I'D SAY WE'RE MORE THAN HALFWAY HOME."
WHERE IS HE, ARIEL? WHERE'S TRISTAN...?
I'M NOT SURE YET. I'M LOCKED ONTO HIM, THOUGH.
I'LL FIND HIM FOR YOU.

MIA.
ONLY SHE CAN RESCUE TRISTAN.
BUT HOW?
I DON'T CARE IF IT HELPS US FIND HIM, WE SHOULDN'T USE OUR POWERS ON EACH OTHER
AT THIS POINT, WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE?
I SENSE HIM. HE'S IN THE CITY. GOD, HE'S ANGRY. AFRAID! THE EMANATIONS ARE SO STRONG...
YOU CAN TAKE US TO HIM?
OF COURSE. BUT WHY DON'T WE SEND MIA AND HALEY? I WANT TO BE ALONE WITH YOU.
N-NO.. WE CAN'T DO THIS NOW
DON'T YOU WANT ME?
UHH, OF COURSE... OF COURSE I DO. BUT PLEASE, LET'S FIND TRISTAN FIRST. THEN I PROMISE .
..WE'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WANT US TO DO

PROFESSOR... YOUR DEFEX PROJECT... THE STUDENTS...
WHAT ABOUT THEM?
WE JUST GOT A SIGNAL... OUR MOLE... THEY'RE COMING!
THE DRAWBACK OF USING SUCH TALENT
ALL RIGHT WE KEEP OUR OPERATIONS MOBILE FOR A REASON.
COMMENCE BREAKDOWN PROCEDURES
DAMN THEM!
HE'S HERE. I SENSE HIM JUST AHEAD OF US. IN THAT BUILDING.
C'MON, C'MON! TRISTAN'S HERE. HE'S SO CLOSE I CAN FEEL HIM.
C'MON, GUYS, HURRY!
SHE REALLY LOVES YOU, WAY TO GO, MAN.
SHUT UP, HALEY.
C'MON. WHAT GUY WOULDN'T WANT THAT POWER?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHEN MY MIND REACHES INTO HERS..
WHEN I MAKE THAT CON-NECTION...
...SHE BECOMES LIKE AN OPEN BOOK. I KNOW HER FEELINGS...
...HER PRIVATE THOUGHTS.

TRISTAN?
I CAN TELL YOU'RE HERE SOMEWHERE
COME OUT, COME OUT WHEREVER YOU ARE
"FASCINATING, THAT ONE'S MS. DAVIS. SHE'S DEVELOPED A SIXTH SENSE OF SORTS."
SHE'S PICKED UP MR. WARFIELD'S PSYCHIC IMPRINT THROUGH 20-PLUS FLOORS.
WHAT'S MOST INTERESTING IS SHE DOESN'T EVEN REALIZE HOW SHE'S DOING IT.
ALL OF THEM ARE STILL RANK BEGINNERS.
THEY'VE HAD THEIR POWERS FOR LESS THAN A WEEK...
...YET THEY'RE ALREADY THIS PROFICIENT.
IMAGINE WHAT THEY'LL BE LIKE WHEN THEY BECOME EXPERTS. YOU SEE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...
"...ONCE AGAIN I WAS RIGHT. THESE FIVE, AT THIS TIME... THEY ARE SUCCEEDING WHERE WE HAVE LONG FAILED."
WHERE IS SHE, MIA?
SHE'S ALREADY GONE UP... TRISTAN MUST BE CLOSE!
SHE'S ALONE? YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT COULD HAPPEN TO HER?

SHUT DOWN YOUR POWER ONCE SHE CAN THINK STRAIGHT.
I DON'T KNOW HOW, DAMNIT!
"THEN GET OUT OF MY WAY. IF SHE RUNS INTO ANY OF THE GUARDS..."
DAMMIT. THIS IS ALL SO WRONG.
NEVER SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS, BUT NOW I'VE BEEN TURNED INTO A FREAK... AND I'M STILL DYING.
ARIEL? WHERE ARE YOU? ARIEL!
NOTHING. SHE'S EITHER NOT ANSWERING, OR SHE CAN'T HEAR ME.
BUT SHE CAME THIS WAY, WHICH MEANS TRISTAN IS HERE, TOO.
OKAY. THINK THIS THROUGH. IF HE IS HERE, HER POWERS WOULD LEAD HER TO--
UNHHHH!
OH GOD!!!
I NEED HELP
JACK? HALEY?
WHERE ARE YOU?
TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF
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UDON COMICS

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CHAPTER 00

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AND THIS INFANT SUCCUBUS SHALL BE MY CHILD AND HEIR.
HER NAME IS MORRIGAN...
THEN WE HOPE TO SERVE MADAM MORRIGAN AS WE HAVE SERVED YOU, MY LORD BELIAL.
* THE DEMON REALM.
YES. FOR AS LONG AS THE FIRES OF HELL BURN, SERVE HER WE SHALL.
MY LORD! HAVE YOU DIVINED WHAT THE FATES HOLD FOR MADAM MORRIGAN?
THROUGH MY EYE'S OMNISCIENCE, I HAVE FORESEEN ALL OF HER POSSIBLE FUTURES.
EVERY HAPPENSTANCE... EVERY COINCIDENCE... EVERY CHOICE AND FEASIBLE CONSEQUENCE I HAVE WITNESSED AND WEIGHED.
AND IN THE INFINITE THREADS OF FATE...THAT HER LIFE MAY SPIN, THERE IS A COMMON, UNIFYING CHARACTERISTIC...
THE STRENGTH TO RULE THE MAKAI.
SIGH.

IN MY VISIONS I HAVE SEEN MORRIGAN POSSESSING A POWER THAT SURPASSES ALL OTHERS--A POWER THAT WILL MAKE HER THE UNDISPUTED RULER OF THE NIMA!
I WANTED SO MUCH FOR YOU TO ENTERTAIN ME, DEMITRI. IF THIS IS ALL YOU'VE GOT, VAMPIRE, THIS WON'T BE ANY FUN FOR ME AT ALL!
NOW, NOW-- YOU SHOULD SHOW MORE RESPECT.
THE WARRING NOBLE HOUSES, BE THEY DOMA, NAGYMOV, OR ANY OTHER, SHALL BATTLE MORRIGAN IN IMPOTENT ATTEMPTS TO UPSET THE DEMON REALM'S BALANCE...
BUT IT IS THROUGH HER THAT THE HOUSE OF VARGOLAND SHALL BE VICTORIOUS AND STABILITY SHALL BE MAINTAINED.
ESPECIALLY TO THE ONE YOU WILL SOON BOW TO AS YOUR MASTER!
KOOM!
FAR

BEFORE LONG, YOU, AND ALL WHO DWELL IN THE MAKAI, SHALL WORSHIP DIMITRI VANTAGO!
KRAAM!
THE TRUE PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
BLAM!

CRACKLE CRACKLE
PITY...
I WOULD HAVE ENJOYED TASTING THE SWEETNESS OF YOUR BLOOD BEFORE SENDING YOU TO OBLIVION
UNABLE TO SEE PAST HER APPEARANCE, SHE SHALL BE UNDERESTIMATED BY HER ENEMIES...
THEY WILL NOT RECOGNIZE THAT THE VASTNESS OF HER BEAUTY IS SURPASSED ONLY BY HER DEVASTATING CAPACITY FOR DESTRUCTION...
AND THAT WILL BE THEIR DOWNFALL...
???

THE ONLY BLOOD YOU'LL BE DRINKING IS YOUR OWN!
KUPCH!
HOW DOES IT TASTE?
DEMITRI, I BID YOU...
FAREWELL!

PAIN AND DEATH ARE ALL THAT WILL AWAIT THOSE WHO DARE TO OPPOSE HER...
AND THE MIGHTIEST SHALL BE GROUND UNDER HER HEEL INTO NOTHING BUT DUST AND ASH.
HOWEVER, IF ALLOWED TO FOLLOW THIS COURSE, HER POWER WOULD ULTIMATELY DESTROY HER.
SHE WOULD DELIGHT IN THE WAILS OF THE DYING AND LOOK DOWN AT THE CHARRED EMBERS OF HER VICTIMS' CORPSES...
AND SMILE.

SHE WOULD REVEL IN THE BLOOD OF THE FALLEN AS HER POWER GREW TO EXPONENTIAL HEIGHTS...
AND EVERY CREATURE OF THE MAGI WOULD QUIVER FROM THE MERE THOUGHT OF HER PRESENCE.
BUT DRUNK IN THE ECSTASY OF HER NEAR-OMNIPOTENCE, SHE WOULD FAIL TO REALIZE THAT THAT ECSTASY IS ALSO DEVOURING HER...
THAT AWOKEN PREMATURELY, THE POWER THAT GAVE HER STRENGTH...
IS THE SAME POWER THAT WOULD OVERWHELM AND CONSUME HER.

BUT I WILL NOT ALLOW THAT TO BE HER FATE.
I WILL DIVIDE HER LIFE FORCE...SEAL AWAY A PORTION OF HER SPIRITUAL POTENTIAL UNTIL SHE IS READY TO EMBRACE THE WHOLE OF HER DARK DESTINY.
YOUR WISDOM IS BOUNDLESS, MY LORD BELIAL.
BUT WHERE SHALL YOU KEEP THIS SEALED LIFE FORCE?
A SECRET PLACE OF SHADOWS AND OF UTTER EMPTINESS.
IN THIS VOID, THAT PORTION OF HER SOUL SHALL SLUMBER UNTIL THE DAY IT IS READY TO BE ROUSED...
AND MORRIGAN SHALL BE MADE WHOLE AGAIN.
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